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IAP14 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 AUG 2006

PCT/DK2005/000113

Lars Elmekilde HANSEN

Attorney Docket No. 02405.0263-00000

AMENDMENTS UNDER PCT ARTICLE 34

(ARTICLE 34 AMENDMENTS)

International Application No. PCT/DK2005/000113

MAIL STOP - PCT

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

REQUEST FOR SUBSTITUTION OF REPLACEMENT SHEETS

Please substitute the attached replacement sheets 1-5 of the claims of the Article 34 Amendments for sheets 12-16 of the claims of the enclosed as-filed PCT application. It is respectfully requested that the claims in the substitute sheets be examined during examination of the patent application. Claims 1-18 are currently pending.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 18, 2006

EFC/FPD/blc

By:


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31-03-2006

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Claims

1. A method of making a package (5) comprising a mineral wool product (1) substantially air-tightly enclosed by a foil (25), characterised by
 - 5 bringing about a dimensional reduction of said mineral wool product (1) by mechanically compressing said mineral wool product (1) in a first direction using mechanical compressing means (30) and
 - 10 evacuating said dimensionally reduced mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said foil (25),
said evacuation being performed while essentially maintaining said dimensional reduction,
 - 15 and said mechanical compression provided by said compressing means (30) being released while performing said evacuation.
2. A method according to the preceding claim, said evacuation of said dimensionally reduced mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said foil (25) being selected to maintain, or essentially maintain, said dimensional reduction.
3. A method according to any of the preceding claims wherein said mineral wool product (1) is enclosed by said foil (25) after said mechanical compression, said dimensionally reduced mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said foil (25) being then evacuated.
4. A method according to any of claims 1 or 2, wherein said mineral wool product (1) is enclosed by said foil (25) before said mechanical compression, said dimensionally reduced mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said foil (25) being then evacuated.

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5. A method according to any of claims 1 or 2, wherein said mineral wool product (1) is enclosed by said foil (25) during said mechanical compression, said dimensionally reduced mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said foil (25) being then evacuated.
10. 6. A method according to any of the preceding claims, said mineral wool product (1) having substantially parallel opposed surfaces (1') defining before said compression a dimension (T) of said mineral wool product (1), said mechanical compressing means (30) applying a uniform or essentially uniform pressure against said opposed surfaces (1').
15. 7. A method according to the preceding claim wherein the pressure within said package (5) comprising said mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said foil (25) is balanced with the pressure on said surfaces (1') required to obtain said dimensional reduction (T-t).
20. 8. A method according to the preceding claim wherein said mechanical compressing means (30) includes a flat surface (30') press applied flatly against at least one of said opposed surfaces (1') and displaced to provide said dimensional reduction (T-t).
25. 9. A method according to any of the preceding claims, the dimensional reduction being at most 70%, preferably no more than 60%.
30. 10. An apparatus (A) for making a package (5) comprising a mineral wool product (1) substantially air-tightly enclosed by a foil (25), characterised by mechanical compressing means (30) adapted for receiving said mineral wool product (1) and for compressing said mineral wool product (1) in a first direction to bring about a dimensional reduction thereof,

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- wrapping means (W) for enclosing said mineral wool product (1) with a web of a substantially air-tight foil (25),
- 5 evacuating means (40) arranged downstream of said compressing means (30) for evacuating said mineral wool product (1) compressed by said compressing means (30) and enclosed by said foil (25).
- 10 11. An apparatus according to the preceding claim, said wrapping means (W) being operable to wrap said foil (25) around said mineral wool product (1) before activation of said mechanical compressing means (30) for bringing about said dimensional reduction, said wrapping means (W) comprising sealing means (17, 18) operable to seal said foil (25) after said wrapping, said evacuating means (40) being operable to evacuate said mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said sealed foil (25).
- 15 12. An apparatus according to the preceding claim, including conveyor means (8, 9, 12", 14) for conveying said mineral wool product (1) along a path, said wrapping means (W) including a supply (15) of said web and receiving means (20) for receiving an end of said web, said web being extendable between said supply (25) and said receiving means (20) across said path to receive said mineral wool product (1) in a receiving area (R), said compressing means (30) being arranged downstream of said receiving area (R).
- 20 25 13. An apparatus according to claim 12, said wrapping means (W) being operable to wrap said web around said mineral wool product (1) after activation of said mechanical compressing means (30) for bringing about said dimensional reduction, said wrapping means (W) comprising sealing means (17, 18) operable to seal said foil (25) after said wrapping, said evacuating means
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(40) being operable to evacuate said mineral wool product (1) enclosed by said sealed foil (25).

14. An apparatus according to the preceding claim, including conveyor
5 means for conveying said mineral wool product (1) along a path, said wrap-
ping means (W) including a supply (15) of said web and receiving means (20)
for receiving an end of said web, said web being extendable between said
supply (15) and said receiving means (20) across said path to receive said
mineral wool product (1) in a receiving area (R), said compressing means
10 (30) being arranged upstream of said receiving area (R).

15. An apparatus according to any the preceding claims 10-14, said eva-
cuation means (40) including surfaces (12', 12") for maintaining said dimensional
reduction during said evacuation.

15 16. An apparatus according to any of the preceding claims 10-15, said com-
pressing means including a flat surface (30') displaceable press (30).

17. An apparatus according to claim 10, said wrapping means (W) being op-
erable to wrap said web around said mineral wool product (1) during activa-
tion of said mechanical compressing means (30) to bring about said dimen-
sional reduction, said wrapping means (W) comprising sealing means (17,
18) operable to seal said foil (25) after said wrapping, said evacuating means
(40) being operable to evacuate said mineral wool product (1) enclosed by
25 said sealed foil (25).

18. An apparatus according to the preceding claim, said mechanical
compressing means (30) including first and second opposed conveyor
means (9', 9") for conveying said mineral wool product (1) along a path and
30 defining there between a passage of decreasing width for obtaining said
dimensional reduction, said wrapping means (W) including a supply (15) of
said web and receiving means (20) for receiving an end of said web, said

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receiving means (20) for receiving an end of said web, said web being extendable between said supply (15) and said receiving means across said path to receive said mineral wool product (1) in a receiving area, said compressing means (30) being arranged downstream of said receiving area.